

# **Kevin DelGobbo**

## *Biography*

State Representative Kevin M. DelGobbo has compiled a record as one of the hardest working and most effective members of the state legislature.

Now serving his fifth term, he has established himself as a clear leader within the state legislature. Rep. DelGobbo is widely recognized as a leading advocate working to strengthen Connecticut's economy and promote job growth.

On fiscal issues, he has consistently been one of the strongest voices for fiscal restraint in Connecticut's state budget and providing relief to overburdened taxpayers. Rep.

DelGobbo has consistently fought against tax increases and recent budget proposals that use onetime revenues and gimmicks. DelGobbo has maintained that state government must "live within its means," and create a "sustainable" budget framework that provides for critical services such as aid to education and seniors.

Rep. DelGobbo has been a principal co-author of landmark legislation on electric and telecommunications issues in Connecticut. In 2005, he co-authored the Energy Independence Act. This law establishes policies to help reduce Connecticut's energy costs, encourage conservation and distributed generation resources, and provide incentives for renewable energy such as fuel cell technology.

As the former chairman of the legislature's "watchdog" Program Review and Investigations Committee, Rep. DelGobbo initiated investigations into the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Transportation's infrastructure renewal program, and the Connecticut emissions testing program.

His leadership positions include ranking member on the legislature's Energy and Technology Committee. He also serves on the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, as well as a member of its Bonding Subcommittee, and as a member of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee and the Regulations Review Committee. Rep. DelGobbo is a cofounder and member of the Connecticut Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus.

DelGobbo considers constituent service as one of his most important responsibilities as a state legislator, and has earned a reputation as a responsive and tenacious advocate for individual residents of Naugatuck.

In addition, DelGobbo has secured millions of dollars in special state grants for Naugatuck during his tenure. These include funds for economic development, downtown improvements, recreation improvements and initiatives for senior citizens, public safety and education.

Through his work in the Naugatuck Valley Development Corporation, he has helped oversee the construction of a new UConn facility in Waterbury as well as the new Arts Magnet School and Palace Theater renovation.

He serves on the board of directors of the Naugatuck YMCA, the Naugatuck Economic Development Corporation, and is vice president of the United Way of Naugatuck and Beacon Falls, where he served as the 2004 fund-raising Campaign Chair. Rep. DelGobbo takes pride in vigorously supporting Naugatuck's many civic and youth organizations and also is a volunteer and mentor in local schools.

Rep. DelGobbo is the co-chair of a recently formed public/private initiative to restore Naugatuck High School's Davis Auditorium.

Rep. DelGobbo is the recipient of honors from various organizations. These include the 2006 Naugatuck High School Alumni Award, 2005 Franklin Johnson, Sr. Outstanding Citizenship Award, the 2005 "Friend of the Taxpayer" Award by the Yankee Institute for Public Policy, the Naugatuck Chamber of Commerce's Louis A. Dibble Sr. Award, as well as the Naugatuck Elks Distinguished Citizen Award. He has been named "Legislator of the Year" by both the Connecticut Community Development Association and the Connecticut Association of Building Contractors. He received the 2005 Patriot Award from the Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen for his "tenacity, integrity, courage and unwavering support of sportsmen's issues."

Rep. DelGobbo was named the 2005 Naugatuck Italian Mayor for the Day and also has earned special recognition for his work with the Connecticut Special Olympics and his efforts to improve the Naugatuck High School sports complex. The Connecticut chapter of the Megan Nicole Kanka Foundation has honored him for his role co-authoring Connecticut's Megan's Law, and the Connecticut Coalition on Aging recognized him for his "dedication and hard work in the General Assembly for the aging population of the state of Connecticut." He has also been the recipient of special honors by "Veterans Who Care" and the Naugatuck YMCA.

Rep. DelGobbo was among forty-five young leaders from across the U.S. and Europe to attend an International Leaders' Conference in 1999 in Trieste, Italy. The conference brought together leaders under age 40 who have demonstrated a record of accomplishments, leadership quality, and a strong potential for professional growth. In 2002, DelGobbo was selected by the American Council of Young Political leaders as one of the top emerging public officials in the United States.

Rep. DelGobbo's extensive academic and work experience abroad has led him to be selected as a trainer/consultant in the emerging democracies of Poland, Slovenia and Macedonia for the U.S. Government's "Project Democracy." Most recently, through this program, DelGobbo traveled to Indonesia to speak to their first democratically elected members of parliament.